

The New Incubus, Reports from Eton, and the Sexiest Valentine's Poll In Years

THE BELL RINGER

Montgomery Bell Academy

4001 Harding Road Nashville, TN 37205

18 February 2004

Vol. LX, No. 5

Long Campus-Wide Internet Nightmare Over



In a feat impossible only weeks ago, students readily access the Internet in the LCL.



MBA (Nathan Deutsch, above right) took to the wrestling mats two weekends ago at Clarksville for the State Duals, and goes this weekend to UTC for individuals. See p. 11

On The Brink Of Revolt, Students & Faculty Placated By Extensive Equipment Upgrade

by HUNTER BRANSTETTER
Associate Editor, Features

In today's world, constant access to the internet seems fundamental to our daily life. When technical difficulties deny us this access, we lose a system of communication as basic as our telephones and a source of information and entertainment as important as our televisions. To compound our frustration, problems with technology are seldom easy to remedy.

Such was the experience of the MBA community throughout much of the first semester. First Class, our beloved e-mail system, was constantly oscillating between being fully functional and dead as a doornail. External web access from campus was inconsistent at best, and, on some days, it seemed as if MBA had never even heard of the internet. As worms such as Blaster, Welchia, and SoBig ran rampant across the World Wide Web and MBA's server, it appeared that our school's computer system might never work again. Then, one fine day, all of our computer problems disappeared. Now, First Class works consistently, the server performs flawlessly, and our internet access has never been faster. As we are all thrilled by this welcome turn of events, I sought an explanation from Mr. Carter and Mr. Hiett.

During our computer travails in the fall, many "armchair quarterbacks" around campus hypothesized that some sort of ill-fated alterations had been made to MBA's technology equipment last summer. In actuality, very few changes were made other than upgrading some of the servers and computers on campus. The most notable work performed was repairing damage done to the phone system when lightning struck the Ball building on August 12. Once the restoration was complete, Mr. Hiett and Mr. Carter did not foresee any further difficulty. When school started, however, the system was not functioning as it had in years past; it was markedly slower and more problematic. At times of peak use such as the beginning of the school day, the system would totally lock up, making it impossible for anyone to access e-mail. While we were all inconvenienced by such outages, perhaps most affected was Mr. Yancey, who was forced to run from classroom to classroom gathering attendance. Mr. Hiett and Mr. Carter looked into all of the standard problems the network could have been having, yet everything seemed to be in good shape. The technology team was stumped; why was our system struggling? Outside consultants were brought in, and, after a great deal of testing, determined that MBA's firewall hardware was the root of the problem. This protective firewall, a

Continued on p. 2

Over Exams, An Age-Old Quarrel Continues

by WILL CAMARATA
Staff Writer

The placement of mid-term examinations on the MBA calendar is a source of perpetual moaning and groaning during the middle of each school year. Asking fellow students about what they think of our exam schedule here at MBA yields responses such as "this is the worst possible way they could do exams," "Our schedule would be so much better if we just did them before break like every other school," or just a plain "Yeah, it stinks." Many also allege that the time of exams needs fixing because they begin at 8:00 AM. In the interest of furthering this discussion, *The Bell Ringer* asked Mr. Brad Gioia, Headmaster, Mr. Alan Coverstone, Academic Dean, and Dr. Robert Drews, classics professor at Vanderbilt University, to weigh in on the finer points of exam scheduling.

Mr. Gioia and Mr. Coverstone were similar in their arguments for having exams after Winter Break. Mr. Gioia pointed specifically to the difficulty of altering tradition at MBA, though they both argued that to shift the calendar for exams is a lot of work and would probably mean coming to school in mid-August for students and August 1st for teachers. Both Mr. Coverstone and Mr. Gioia see the dates of exams as a minor issue, with the Headmaster saying that the issue of scheduling midterms registers insignificant compared to class character, integrity, and overall academic performance. He also warned that many social conflicts will occur with exams before break, but after break is a generally less hectic period of the year.

As a student, however, the reverse may be true. If exams are out of the way, family vacation and time with friends is purer—parents are not hounding their sons to study or worried about exams at all. Both the Headmaster and Mr. Coverstone reply

that the timing doesn't matter—students come prepared or unprepared for their examinations. Mr. Coverstone's only concession was that with earlier exams, students would not "lose their minds" during Christmas.

Students, too, assent to the one major drawback of exams before break: a longer academic year. Winter Break will not be lengthened by much and the student body won't be let out earlier because AP exam schedules can't be changed, and once the schedule is changed it is highly unlikely MBA will switch back suddenly.

Yet Dr. Robert Drews, classics professor at Vanderbilt University and husband to MBA French teacher Mrs. Phoebe Drews, offers another perspective. He has given exams both before and after Christmas, and prefers the earlier tests despite the disadvantages. Citing pre-air conditioner days when an earlier start meant a sweltering first weeks of school, Professor Drews too agrees that exams before break

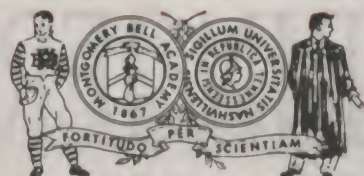
are hectic for students. He dislikes the fact that December tests meant grading late into break—sometimes approaching Christmas. Dr. Drews also complained about less time to write a pre-Christmas exam, making the tests broader and less exact in general.

Despite all of these drawbacks, Dr. Drews says he still prefers exams before break because of two key factors: We can teach semesters in continuity without long breaks that interrupt learning, and earlier midterms allow a longer, better, and much more enjoyable break.

There will always be exams, but teachers should consider the benefits of continuity of semesters, which may improve grades, and there is no doubt that students would enjoy a break far more without exams hanging over their heads.

INSIDE:

Op-Ed, 3; Features, 4; Entz 6;
Poll, 8; Sports, 11; Humor, 12.



THE BELL RINGER

Christopher P. Schuller
Editor-in-Chief

Theodore J. Tywang
Managing Editor

Associate Editors
Hunter Branstetter, *Features*
Curtis Lane, *Sports*
Chris Gicci, *Entertainment*
Max Douglas, *News*
Will Delachie, *Photography*

Matt Burch, *Business Manager*

Bill Brown, *Cartoonist*

Mr. Anderson Gaither
Mrs. Anne Christeson
Faculty Advisors

MEMBER, TENNESSEE HIGH SCHOOL PRESS ASSOCIATION

The *Bell Ringer* is a non-profit newspaper operated and published by and for the students of Montgomery Bell Academy, who are its intended audience. Views expressed in *The Bell Ringer* do not necessarily represent those held by the staff or school. Letters to the Editor are encouraged and can be delivered to the Newspaper Office in the basement of Ball, the Faculty Advisors' classrooms, the Editor-in-Chief, Managing Editor, or sent to bellringer@fc.montgomerybell.com (simply type 'Bell Ringer' into First Class). These letters must be signed; *The Bell Ringer* neither publishes anonymous submissions of opinions or articles nor permits individuals to remain unidentified unless protected by rules of confidentiality at MBA. Letters will be edited for length and clarity. The staff of *The Bell Ringer* prepares all copy, headlines, and photographs at Montgomery Bell Academy. Franklin Web Printing in Franklin, Tennessee, prints the paper.

FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

King Society: Fight Against Racism

On the 20th of January, 2004, Assembly watched with interest the induction of new members into a new honor society meant to recognize community service and remember the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Charged in a rousing guest oration with a great mission of social justice for the campus, members of the fledgling association were given a lapel pin to

The King Society can create a new legacy of tolerance and acceptance where honor and integrity already exist.

wear and an ideological cross to carry: equality.

Yet after the ceremony and the recognition, members of the King Society stepped out into an awkward quadrangle. MBA, cosmopolitan and diverse though it fancies itself, has its collective neck pressed to the double-edged sword of tradition. Though it serves institutions like the Honor Code, Totomoi, this newspaper, and henceforth the King Society very well, tradition binds this school to an awkward array of vestiges of Confederacy. Surely I am not alone in seeing the irony of a new member of the Martin Luther King Jr. society walk to his first class after induction past a bronze monument

Internet troubles a thing of the past

(continued from p. 1)

Firebox, was supposed to be able to handle 1,000 users, yet fewer than 500 users at MBA were causing the system to bottleneck.

The solution was simple: get another firewall, a newer firewall, a better firewall. Still the question remained; why did the original firewall become such a problem this fall when MBA's bandwidth consumption did not increase significantly from the end of the last school year to the beginning of this one? Although there is no way to prove it, Mr. Hiett conjectures that the August lightning strike damaged the firewall. This seems to be a plausible explanation since the firewall was housed in the same closet in Ball that held much of the phone equipment that had to be replaced after the summer storm. MBA purchased a new firewall, a Nokia Checkpoint, the same product being used successfully at Belmont University. "I figure that if it can handle all of the twenty-four hour traffic Belmont gets from its boarding students and faculty, it can handle MBA's needs," asserted Mr. Hiett. Thus far, the new firewall has doubled MBA's bandwidth, anticipated problems before they have arisen, and dealt with our internet traffic flawlessly.

The improvements to the system did not stop there, however. Along with the new firewall, the routers in each building were

standardized, and the network was subdivided by building so that problems can now be quickly located, isolated, and dealt with. For example, MBA recently encountered the new MyDoom worm, called "the fastest spreading virus yet" by the security firm Message Labs. Our technology staff dealt with the worm by quickly scanning the school's system, finding the eight infected computers, fixing the problem, and blocking all file types which carry the worm, effectively ending the threat posed by MyDoom.

As it turns out, the first semester's annoying technical troubles were really a dark cloud with a silver lining. MBA's network is safer and more powerful, affording all of us the excellent access to the internet to which we've grown accustomed.

ENDORSEMENT

John Kerry for President

John F. Kerry's chance of gaining the Democratic nomination for the 2004 Presidential Election looked dim last year. It would have taken a miracle in the Iowa primary just to carry him to New Hampshire where he trailed Howard Dean by over thirty points. This year the long shot became a solid victor in both states, shattering political models based on past precedent and everyone's, including my own, predictions. Kerry's original struggle was sending a clear message to voters, but as the race progressed, clever political strategies and rousing speeches



Almost as liberal as this paper's rogue editor

culminated in one clear message: he has the experience, personality, and policies not only to beat George W. Bush, but also to lead America in a better direction once elected. In every issue he alone has presented a well-balanced alternative to Bush's plan instead of just running negative ads like other candidates. Kerry's plans include making the current tax cut plans more level and effective at stimulating the economy, reforming

immigration laws so they integrate people into our society instead of letting them struggle for meager opportunities, and taking a different approach to Iraq so that more of our soldiers come home to their families. Kerry's experience ranges from his military service in Vietnam, for which he was highly decorated, to Washington where he has worked twenty

years as a senator, including eighteen years on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. With his personality, courage, and experience, John Kerry can lead this nation as a great president.

JONATHAN RAY

MBA Spring Break
March 12-21. Classes Resume
Mon., 3-22

Project Graduation Disco Mar.
6, 8p.m.

National Latin Exam
March 10, 2004

Mayor Bill Purcell in Assembly,
March 24, 2004

The Bell Ringer will hold a general-interest meeting for all potential staff writers and photographers on Tuesday, February 24, 2004. Location TBA - Watch Daily Announcements.

CHRISTOPHER P. SCHULLER

In Iowa, Folks Buzzed On Dean And Caffeine

BURLINGTON, IOWA—Hi. My name is Chris Beckman, and I support Howard Dean. I read the *New York Times*; I drink lattes. I hope all of you will help me with my recovery. Not, though, from what you might see as delusion—I don't want to recover from my Dean-supporting ways. Or my lattes. I want to recover from this whirlwind nomination process and from those who turn it into the media event that it has become. In one broad stroke of the polls (or the media, or the voters) everything changed, and I was there for it all.

I am the president of the Speech and Debate team at my high school in Burlington Iowa. Through the research and reading I normally do for that activity, I determined quickly that Governor Dean matched my political stances closely. What made him stand out clearly from the pack was his ability to stand up for his positions. He was willing to tell the Democratic party leadership that they had simply rolled over for President Bush. Had Governor Dean not upped the ante with honest passion and anger at the sitting president, the Democrats very likely would have been willing to turn the presidential race into a personality contest. A few weeks before the caucuses, I met Governor Dean and introduced him to a crowd. I can vouch for his personality and speaking abilities; he would give the President a run for his money—and his office.



by CHRIS BECKMAN
Burlington Community High School
BURLINGTON, IA

Unfortunately, Dean's campaign is recently looking a bit like the *Titanic*, with Democrats jumping into the icy waters of John Kerry's embrace. I am not one to shift with the popular political winds, so I disagree with assertions that Governor Dean destroyed his own candidacy and credibility with events leading up to and after the Iowa caucuses.

First is the issue of his—as one newspaper has dubbed it—"wild, raucous concession speech." The Iowa rally speech was not as appalling as many have portrayed it to be. All of the major TV news networks save ABC have issued apologies for what was, as one journalist characterized it, an unfair representation of Dr. Dean. Unfortunately, America learns about politics from Jay Leno and television news stations. The small portion of the speech in which Governor Dean yells over the crowd was replayed over television close to a thousand times in the week following its delivery.

Some others point toward "gaffes" made by Governor Dean. Many of these are not as crazy or unintentional as observers

make them out to be. If one accepts the basic arguments against the Iraq war, and the subsequent global anti-American sentiment, then it's understandable to feel that Saddam Hussein's capture has not made us any safer. Moreover, are we so primal that we believe Osama bin Laden doesn't deserve a fair trial?

Even with Governor Dean's anemic showing in Iowa, the caucuses remained very interesting. Edwards and his supporters were by far the best prepared, with booklets passed out to all in attendance. Many independents were not serious about the process, accepting multiple candidate's stickers and making up their mind during the proceedings, based entirely upon exaggerated rhetoric from one camp. Having stuck with him through turmoil, I am proud to say that I am a delegate for Governor Dean.

May the candidate you support never have to walk through the pit of fire that mine has endured. Iowa is an amazing place for a person interested in politics to live, if only for a couple months every four years. Before the next caucuses, I should be through my recovery, and ready to take on another round of Iowa nomination mayhem.

CONGRATULATIONS

2004 Scholastic Art Award Winners

Gold: Ben Fredericks, Dylan Burroughs, Eric Bader, David Howe, Bill Brown, Lee White, John Lee, Dylan Richey, Joseph Bibb, and Max Douglas.

Silver: Tyler Yarbrough, Taylor Smyth, Sam Moon, Nicholas Burn, William Emfinger, Matthew Kimball, Matthew Sternberg, Dylan Burroughs, Brian Harris, Bill Brown, Richard Greathouse, Max Douglas, Ben Fredricks, and Leland Howe

National Merit Scholarship Finalists

Taylor Barnett, Phillip Brackowski, Jack Davis, Jonathan Doerr, Matthew Francis, Josiah Garton, Scott Hagan, Laurence Howard, Neal Idnani, Arthur Kim, Shaun McFall, Charles Morgan, Jesse Richards, Christopher Schuller, Alex Shofner, Matthew Smith, Ted Tywang, Steve Vutsinas, Trevor Yarbrough, and Robert Zellem.

CALENDAR

Feb. 20
Course Registrations Due
Senior Off-Campus Lunch
State Swimming @ Sportsplex
State Wrestling @ UTC
V Basketball vs. Ryan

Feb. 21
Rock-Paper-Scissors
Tournament (1 p.m.)

THE FOREIGNER plays Feb. 26-29 in the Theater. Thursday @ 7:30 p.m., Friday @ 8:00 p.m., Saturday @ 2 and 8 p.m., Sunday @ 2:00 p.m.

March 3
Basketball Tournament begins
@ Lipscomb U.

March 5
Ping-Pong Tournament, 3-8 p.m.

March 11
Spring Break begins @ 3:10 p.m.

LETTER FROM ENGLAND

My Life In Airports and Potatoes

by CALDWELL TANNER
Foreign Correspondent

WINDSOR, BERKSHIRE, ENGLAND—As many of you have hopefully realized by now, I, Caldwell Tanner, am currently at Eton College in Windsor, England on exchange. While I am thoroughly enjoying my stay at Eton, my thoughts often turn towards life at MBA, and I felt it would be a good idea to inform every one of my experiences thus far.

I arrived at the London's Heathrow airport in the afternoon after a wonderful all-day flight (there's nothing quite like it). I first met Mr. Milne, an Eton housemaster who was nice enough to pick me up. Upon arriving at my house, I met my own housemaster, Dr. Gailey, and my dame—the house matron who would function as my ersatz mother for the next three months. Sadly no boys had arrived yet, so I decided to look around Windsor, the town adjacent to Eton, which contains the royal family's castle, and thus millions of tourists. My house at Eton, Manor House, was actually the house that both of the princes stayed in; they've both left, the younger Prince Harry last year. Later that night I met the guys with whom I was to be living for the next two and a half months. Instead of grades, Eton uses the term blocks, seniors being B block, juniors C block, and so on down to F block, which is the first year, equivalent to our eighth grade.

The next days went by rather fast, and I spent most of them in a state of intense

confusion; after I had met all my beaks (teachers) and figured out my schedule, which changes daily, I was totally set. The days at Eton are arranged in this order: every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, there are both morning and evening classes; the afternoon is devoted to athletics such as the Field Game, and other extracurricular stuff. Due to a late arrival, I wasn't able to get my uniform until a few days into the week, but after that I was looking ridiculously sharp. The uniform consists of a detachable collar, a small white disposable tie, which loops through the collar (don't worry if that doesn't make sense, it's really not supposed to), a black waistcoat, the infamous tailcoat, and the smartest (or so they call dress clothes) pin-striped trousers you've ever seen (I assume, it's not like I actually know). Despite the fact that I have morning classes on Saturdays, and chapel or assembly five times a week, this trip is one of the best things I've ever done. Last month my English class visited Stratford-upon-Avon; I can't say it's been the highlight of my trip, but seeing the place where Shakespeare lived was a great experience. Once I had finished my Big Red Exams, I had a lot more time for actually hanging out and experiencing Eton firsthand. Recently we had a short leave, which means all the Etonians get to take a full weekend away from school (that's right, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday). I was lucky enough to get to stay with a boy in my block named Tom Tollenmache and his family, who live in the English countryside near Oxford

University, a great place, I might add, where only the smartest and coolest kids from around the globe can go. (I swear I did not insert that sentence into the article. = Editor)

In addition to all these fun facts about Eton, there are some differences I thought I might address. First of all, food. Lucky for me, my house is one of the few that has its own dining hall, preventing me from having to wake up extra-early (as in 7:20) to walk to the school cafeteria. Breakfast is slightly different than the brunch extravaganza they sometimes serve at MBA, usually consisting of very salty bacon, toast, and tea. Lunch is usually some meat thing and potatoes; never before have I seen such a large amount of potatoes served, but you get used to it, sort of. Another difference would have to be in sports: during this term, the main game is the Field Game, a strange cross between rugby and soccer (this is another one of those things you shouldn't bother with trying to understand). Other games include field hockey and rugby.

It's amazing in all actuality how similar these two places are, besides, of course, the slight difference in their ages, and the fact that you live with your classmates. It's an awesome place that I would recommend to anyone. So until the fourth quarter roles around, I wish everyone at home good luck and a very chill Spring Break. Caldwell Tanner is at Eton College through the third quarter as part of MBA's exchange programs to England. He can be reached at c.tanner@etoncollege.org.uk

FICTION

Messengers of Beckoning, Part 3

by CHRISTOPHER PICKENS
Staff Writer

In Part II, youth Milo Darian has just accepted the offer of a stranger who chooses to be called Baal. We join the two as they travel to the train station.

As they neared the train station, the moon did come out. It lingered, contemplating, but finding nothing interesting to watch, flittered dejectedly behind the clouds. The streetlamps buzzed and moaned as they entered another night of vigilance against the impending, cackling darkness. More people were about now, with the weather agreeable, and Milo walked pleasantly along, happy to just peer at every passerby. Soon, this pastime grew tiresome, and the crowds thinned, huddling near the heartbeats of the communities. Safety in numbers, Milo thought cynically.

The train station hunched in its field of tracks and bushes of overhanging, dilapidated shelters. Baal hesitated before crossing the gigantic, never-filled parking lot. He cocked his head and swiveled it around, but said nothing. Milo took a guess.

"Are they here?"

With a brief "three miles and closing," Baal clutched his staff and without changing pace, proceeded to head forward.

"So...they're..."

"Yes, and I think they know who you are by now."

"That's bad."

"Nothing's good," Milo felt colder, and clutched his shrunken flannel shirt closer to his body.

As their shoes clunked and scuffed along the planks of the terminal, Milo headed off towards the ticket booth, while Baal headed straight for the platform. The porky, disillusioned woman in the ticket booth said through the weak microphone, "Sir, you need a ticket to get through."

Baal did not turn, but kept walking.

"Sir," she said again.

"We need to pay," called Milo.

Why was he just walking?

"We need to get on the train," Baal said without turning.

"Yes, and we need to pay." Baal turned and stared for a moment at nothing. Behind those glasses, Milo could have no idea what was going on. Then, Baal simply nodded and returned to the ticket booth, shoving some bills into the woman's hands. "Have a nice evening, the train will be here shortly." She rolled her eyes and turned back to her *People* magazine.

The benches before the tracks were bulky and uncomfortable, but Milo sat all the same. Two other people were at the platform; an old man with a stick and a floppy hunter's hat teetered and mumbled not five inches from the edge of the platform. The other was a scrawny teen clutching a grocery bag.

"Now we wait," Baal said. He did not seem the slightest bit worried, and Milo

was surprised to see that he had taken out a book of poetry, and was now reading it calmly. "Metaphysical Conceit and Representative Authors, 1600-1750" proclaimed the cover. Milo had nothing to say to this, so he busied himself with reading the worn-out ads and wanted posters that plastered the pillars supporting the roofs. His feet tapped, and he was getting colder. In the chill, the presence of the others was irrelevant, and the old man's grumblings became as the chill, a presence in itself, nothing more. The sound of the empty train station was unnerving, and Milo wrapped himself in his fear until Baal tapped him on the shoulder and pointed.

It's more like a tall subway car, thought Milo as he looked at the train. It had seen better days, burdened by graffiti and neglected by the general public. But the doors opened as one, and the four waiting passengers made for the doors. Milo was interested to see that the others made for the front of the vehicle, the teen glancing over his shoulder as he walked. Milo stepped to a window seat, but Baal stood, peering out the open door. As the door closed before him, he smirked and sat next to Milo. Then, all the lights went out on the platform.

"That clerk woman is dead," said Baal, gazing across Milo to look out on the shadowy platform. "They killed her as they



reached the station, I think." Milo was keenly aware that the train was not yet moving. "They are on their way here. Thirty seconds to intercept" — this last bit he seemed to say to himself — "and then it's going to be interesting."

The train had started to move. The lights in the car blinked and stayed on as the car chugged forward. Milo was looking out the window. Shapes flittered before the window, men it seemed, although they moved too fast for Milo to see. They approached the moving train, but by this time, the cars were moving at a faster rate, and the shapes stayed back, sulking through the night.

The two travelers watched from the window as the shape of the station faded away behind the jungle of city streets. Baal moved to the back to stare out the back window, but Milo remained in his seat. Milo's stomach was still pulsing in his gut, and a headache from dread forced him to lie across the yellowing seats. I haven't eaten in hours, he realized.

Baal sat back next to him. He looked more relaxed, and went so far as to lean his staff against the wall. It seemed to Milo that as time went on, Baal seemed to

become more and more relaxed, and confidence spilled from his smile.

"Here," he muttered, placing a hand on Milo's back. "Eat some of this, it helps." Milo felt a piece of bread in his hand and weakly chewed. For a moment, he felt nothing, but in an instant, like a sneeze a wave of sleepiness blew through his lungs. He was asleep before he could exhale.

The rumble of the engine was a calming motion that kept Milo asleep for many hours. Dreams flitted in and out, and images became feelings that weighed him down to the point of opening his eyes, gasping. The sun was still down. The forest around them was silent under the whir of the tracks, but Milo was gazing in wonder at the forests themselves. The farthest from the city Milo had gone was to a concert in one of the suburbs, but not so far as to actually see trees; real, natural trees. It was a jolt from a sleep that seemed instantaneous.

"We are close now," came the voice of Baal. "Another hour. We should arrive at about the time the sun comes up."

"Any sightings those...those guys behind us?"

"No, but I suspect -"

Like a thunderbolt, the train crunched together, groaning and screeching. Milo was thrown forward, and laid across the tilting floor, arms flailing. Although Milo could hear the thump, he could not see where Baal landed. For a full fifteen seconds, the train and all her occupants were at the mercy of inertia alone.

As the train came to a shrieking stop, Milo shot to his feet as best he could. The makings of a bump on his head and a bleeding chin halted him for a moment, in which he peered around. The lights were out, and the moonlight that made it inside reflected off the steel frames, falling across Baal's turned back. The train was tilted, and only one door in Milo's car seemed to be undamaged. Baal's shape stood at this door, head tilted, listening. A sound, other than the contented crickets, met Milo's ears. A crunching, thumping sound, like the sound of many boots approaching the car.

"Now, I need you to do something," whispered Baal, his back turned. "Walk slowly to the back of the train. There you will find the back door. Go through it."

Milo wanted to help, see what went wrong. "Hey, I know CPR, maybe I can stay and -"

"You have no time, and this was no accident," snarled Baal. The crunching grew louder.

Milo realized what he meant as the crunching stopped outside the door. Then he turned and ran. It was tough going through the beaten train, but he came to the doors, and he passed through them. He heard no sounds from behind, but kept moving, moving towards that goal in the end of the train. The door loomed before him, like his salvation, before he heard a gunshot, then a second. But he was compelled to go forward. He placed his hand on the door latch and pushed. Whiteness enveloped him.

Continued Next Issue.

DINING OUT

Shalimar

by MAX DOUGLAS
News Editor

Aside from the occasional proms and homecomings, students rarely go on formal dates, but even during those events students tend to go in groups. Few work up the courage to ask a girl out on a date, one on one, in all of these awkward years. If you feel compelled to ask a girl out on a date this February 14th, or if you are looking for a really awkward time with another guy, I suggest you eat dinner at *Shalimar*, the romantic restaurant of Green Hills.

The fine Indian cuisine at *Shalimar* is unmatched in all of Nashville. It was voted in 2003 by the *Nashville Scene* as the best Indian restaurant in town. I would suggest the lamb cooked in spinach with a side of garlic naan. It also might be a good idea to pick up a bottle of fine wine to accompany your meal. I guess *Shalimar* doesn't have a liquor license because all the grown-up couples were bringing their own wine. I had to settle for water. When the food was served, it came out in platters that we spooned onto our plates. Just about every entrée comes with rice. I think they are encouraging sharing, like the two dog-lovers eating spaghetti in *The Lady and the Tramp*. As for the restaurant's interior, it snugly seats twenty-five people, so it is about the size of a class room. Fake roses and a glass wicker lamp decorate the tables. Wooden benches and carved iron flanked the doorways. There were some studio lights that weren't turned on, but I suppose they could be used for dramatic lighting. The walls were nothing special, but were painted in an abstract, intentionally sloppy fashion. The atmosphere at *Shalimar* is one of serious romance. Don't take a girl you wouldn't consider marrying or possibly end up like the *War in Heaven* from *Disney's Sword in the Stone*.

I've never eaten there, but I hear it's the most American-friendly Indian restaurant in Nashville. "We're Indian MBA students! Neal & Ahmed, a senior." Just the fact that it's an MBA gives it away as obviously Americanized.

Shalimar is relatively unknown and avoided by younger people, but it is a great place to have a romantic meal with a little cultural sophistication.

MBA PRESENTS

The Foreigner
by LARRY SHUE

February 26-29, 2004

Thursday @ 7:30

Friday @ 8:00

Saturday @ 2:00 and 8:00

Sunday @ 2:00

Free Admission for MBA
Students and Season Ticket
Holders

COGITO ERGO VROOM

CAR OF THE MONTH: THE WAG

by TAYLOR SHOPE
Staff Writer

The car this month has been selected out of an enormous game of "King of the Parking Lot." Sam Hodgson's dirt-brown station wagon, nicknamed "The Wag," has won this month's contest. The Wag is a 1985 Oldsmobile Custom Cruiser Station Wagon that the cops have apparently marked as having a history of driving recklessly down West End. The Wag has been in six fender benders that Sam can recall and has, as yet, no tickets or major wrecks.

The best story that Sam will allow me to put into the paper was when he and Bill Brown were going to Palmer Park after a lacrosse game. The two were in a hurry, so a vigilant Belle Meade police officer was forced to pass them in order to pull them over. Sam had other plans. After the cop passed him, Sam turned right off Belle Meade Boulevard and drove away from the cop. The Police officer apparently read Sam's license plate and found out where Sam lived because the cop showed up the next morning and threatened Sam with evading arrest. However, the only punishment in store for Sam was a four-hour driving school class called "Alive at 25."

Sam has also added several things to the car since The Wag's birth, including a CD-player, a dice air freshener, and lights on the wheels. Sam also added a small multitude of dents from running into poles in the Subway parking garage, and bumping cars in the Wendys parking lot.

A few miscellaneous statistics about The Wag are that it has about one hundred sixty-six thousand miles on the odometer, a top speed at 85 mph, and is never able to fit in a regulation size parking spot because it sticks out at both ends. The Wag has been the beneficiary of two flat tires, and has completely shut down an innumerable times while driving on the street.

Another interesting side note about The Wag from fairly recent times is that the rear, driver's side door will not shut, and so Sam has come up with a new way to fix that particular problem. He has tied the inner door handles together with a dog leash. His remedy is not entirely efficient, however, as the indoor light will not turn itself off because this door won't shut, and so Sam has resorted to jumping his car whenever he needs to get it started. *Taylor Shope handles Car of the Month. For information or to make a nomination, reach him at shopet@fc.montgomerybell.com.*



Electronic Express

THE ONLY NAME YOU NEED TO KNOW

Rock on.

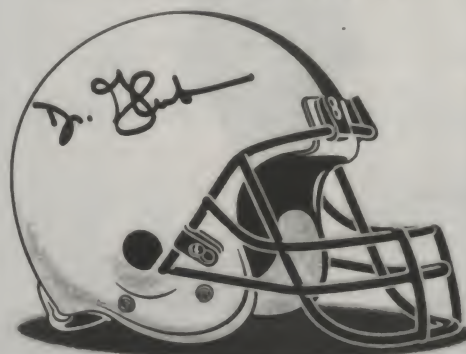
We have everything you need for total go-anywhere entertainment. Check out our wide selection and low prices on Portable Audio, Car Stereo, Wireless Phones and so much more!



Visit One of our 15 Convenient Locations

www.electronicexpress.com

TAKE it
STRAIGHT
to THE END ZONE



A. JOEL GLUCK
ORTHODONTIC

615.269.5903 • 4235 Hillsboro Rd. • Suite 201

CAMPUS PERSONALITIES

Mission: Impossible Density Problems

by PETE BURGESS

Accounting Innocent Faculty Since 2003

Three years ago Mrs. Amy Seiters temporarily left the MBA community for top secret undercover work only to return to us with letters of commendation from the agency and new stripes on her shoulder. Now the MBA community gets the whole story.

What exactly do you teach?

7th grade science, physical science.

What was your high-school experience like?

I went to a very large public school in Virginia. Norfolk is a Navy town so there were a lot of Navy families. A very diverse school, very different from MBA.

I understand you're not entirely new to MBA.

I taught at MBA from 1996-2000. My husband and I left in 2000 to go to Chapel Hill, NC for my husband to graduate school; I was pregnant, so I had our first child, and then I had another child. Now we're back in Nashville.

What was the most exciting thing that happened to you while you were away?

Probably having two kids.

So no secret missions or anything?

No, I was pretty much just having two kids.

What is your position on field mice?

On field mice? What about them?

How do you feel about them?

Field mice are field mice.

What made you decide to become a teacher?

I went to UVA and took some education classes and really decided then that I wanted to be a teacher. Then, I changed majors and I wasn't going to finish on time so I dropped education. I worked for three years as an environmental consultant in D.C. for the Department of Energy. While I liked some aspects of the work, I realized that I wasn't giving that much back to the world, and I wanted to do something that made a difference. I went back to my original idea that of teaching. At the time my husband-to-be was here in Nashville working, and we got engaged. I decided to move here, and that was my first contact with Mr. Gioia.

What stands out most in your mind when you think of MBA?

Well, there are so many things. The sense of community. As far as faculty, it's an amazing place to be a student, but it's a pretty amazing place to be a teacher. We get to know our students really well, which is something that I really enjoy...knowing each of the kids I teach. But we're friends too, and it makes a big difference.

Is there anything you'd like to say to the MBA community in general?

Thanks for taking me back.



Not-really-new teacher Mrs. Amy Seiters, who can perhaps perform a chemican analysis of the lunch she's about to eat and tell us what it really is.

bellringer@fc.montgomerybell.com



**The Bell Ringer congratulates these new
King Society inductees:**



Back Row (L>R): Ben Pote, Jonathan Doerr, Chris Gioia, Jay Pilkerton, Hunter Branstetter, Cotton Clark, Michael Bohan, Brewer Adams. Front Row (L>R): Corey Burton, Ben Turk, Matthew Clair, Jesse Wright, Andy Absentzer, David Pass, Alex Vasilescu, Philip Brackowski, Edwin Conley.

SIGNS FIRST

"You can't do better than First"

Bell Meade Plaza
4516 Harding Road
297-5681

What we can do for you...

- Banners (full color/digital)
- Vinyl Graphics
- Magnetics
- Trade Show Signs
- Job/Const. Site Signs
- Architectural/Office
- Comm. Real Estate
- Traffic/Directional

Believe It Or Not, Alt Music Scene Thriving

by JUSTIN HALL
Staff Writer

Nashville is the land from which country music stars hail. It was the original home of Country Music Television before Gaylord Entertainment sold it. Nashville is even home to the country music version of American Idol, aptly named Nashville Star. While all this is great, Nashville's country success has come hand-in-hand with the loss of its identity. Nashville is no longer the primordial soup of great underground music it once was. Nashville has become the Oversized Country Belt Buckle of the South.



Despite the musical brain drain, Nashville is filled with venues of great live entertainment. Forget AmSouth Amphitheater, The Grand Ole Opry,

and the Gaylord Entertainment Center. Clubs like 3rd and Lindsley Bar and Grille, The Bluebird Café, The Exit/In, 12th and Porter, the B.B. King Blues Club, Lipstick Lounge, and the Ryman Auditorium have bands that play outside of the country genre and will blow you away.

The Ryman Auditorium is by far the most famous of all of these. It is an old church on 5th Avenue famous for its big name gigs, the ancient artistry of the Grand Ole Opry, and the legendary faces which

have passed across its stage. Few places can top the Ryman for just plain good music.

3rd and Lindsley is one of the better local clubs, with great dining and a fantastic range of musical performers. Ranging from Edwin McCain to The Average White Band to the Wooten Brothers (on a regular basis) as well as incredible local talent, 3rd and Lindsley is a must for any serious musician. The local talent here really shines, as the cream of the crop of Nashville plays primarily on the weeknights. If you can't catch a live show there, Lightning 100 (FM 101.1) supports a live broadcast from the bar every Sunday night.

For blues and good music, head to B.B. King Blues Club. They tend to focus on mainly non-famous bands who are just downright good musicians. Anyone from the Latin Salsa band Orkestra Mondo Pingus to B.B. King himself might be playing. You'll find talented musicians at this "new-kid-on-the-block" in the world of music venues.

12th and Porter was ranked fifth in Nashville Citysearch's top ten poll for clubs for a good reason: for hard playing musicians from any genre, check out this club located on 12th Avenue. While you're checking out fabulous local talent like Joe, Marc's Brother, or the Shazam, catch some good food as well.

All of these venues are intended for the older crowd, but getting in is not a big problem. If you have the time, catching a show at any one of the local music clubs and bars in Nashville is generally a good idea. It's the flavorful, non-generic music from the heart of Nashville that truly gives us our identity as the Music City. Do yourself a favor and pay one of these clubs a visit.



Bands regularly perform at the Exit/In, a mainstay of Nashville's non-country scene.

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS? OPINIONS?

bellringer@fc.montgomerybell.com

MUSIC

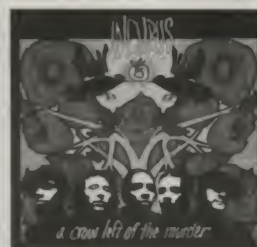
Incubus' *Crow* A Change And A Winner

by TAYLOR GOULD
Staff Writer

Incubus fans, the wait is finally over. The long anticipated alt-rock album *A Crow Left of the Murder*, released on Feb. 3rd, successfully attempts the nearly impossible: attempting to broaden musical horizons capable of drawing fans of numerous musical genres. The band has constantly evolved throughout their history, which consists of six albums, making radical changes which some fans have not received with such an open mind. *A Crow Left of the Murder* is a prime example of this; it represents such a radical change from previous works that many fans just plain don't like it. However, a band with such talent does not stop evolving and changing just so their fans can enjoy the same music on every record. It's for this reason that Incubus is such an exciting band, you never know what you're going to get. Considered alone, this album is a great record, as great as it is in Incubus' progression of albums. The lineup has changed a bit for this record, which has no doubt had at least some effect on the music.

Former bass player Alex Katunich has been replaced by Ben Kenney, former guitarist and bassist of The Roots. Also the new album was produced and mixed by Brendan O'Brien, one of the most sought-after producers of the last decade and a half. He has worked with Aerosmith, Pearl Jam, Rage Against the Machine, and countless other successful bands of this genre. I don't claim to know much about music, but it seems that on this album Incubus has focused more on creating a seamless composition than a catchy hook or a drum fill here and there, an approach which has resulted in the best music of the band's 13-year career. This different approach has led Incubus to forget the popular, radio-friendly songs for the most part and create more solid music which will stand the test of time. Even after twenty plays, no song has that "OK, this is getting old" kind of feel. In fact, it really takes a few times to hear every aspect of each song, like the soft tambourine on "Agoraphobia." Each song flows with a certain quality that Incubus' music has never really had before. The album opens with the popular single

A Crow Left of the Murder
Feb. 3, 2004
Sony; \$18.98



1. Megalomaniac
2. A Crow Left of the Murder
3. Agoraphobia
4. Talk Show On Mute
5. Beware! Criminal
6. Sick Sad Little World
7. Pistola
8. Southern Girl
9. Priceless
10. Zee Deveel
11. Made for TV Movie
12. Smile Lines
13. Here In My Room
14. Leech

"Megalomaniac," a high-energy number, followed by the more low-key title track. The album continues through more amazing music, including the more old-Incubus style "Sick Sad Little World," to possibly the sleeper hit of this album, "Southern Girl." The slower rhythm allows singer Brandon Boyd to showcase his incredible voice using falsetto in the chorus, following the same formula which made the single "Drive" such a hit. The album ends on my personal favorite, "Leech," a song which showcases new bassist Ben Kenney. Overall, the album is very solid and will live up to its expectations. *A Crow Left of the Murder* may not be Incubus' best selling record—it's not too radio friendly—but it is certainly their most musically diverse and tightest record to date.

Advertisement

7th Annual Pulse Day Set For April 3, 2004

On PULSE Day, teenagers from across Nashville will participate in one of the largest youth volunteer events in middle Tennessee. Teams of young people will spend a morning helping social service agencies, charitable organizations, schools, and other groups that need volunteers. In a single day, these dedicated young people will provide more than 4,000 hours of community service.

REGISTRATION began on Thursday, February 12, and lasts until March 12, 2004.

To register, contact your service club, visit www.teenedge.com, or call Oasis Center at (615) 327-4455.

Oscars: The Best of a Bumper Crop of Movies

by ALEX SHOFNER
Staff Writer

After last year's relatively disappointing Oscar night, with the sub-par musical *Chicago* taking home the Best Picture statuette, I am quite pleased to see this year's slate of nominees. It was a year for the independent film, and many of the better movies were unknown on their first release. As usual, some categories seem locked up whereas others are up for grabs. Here is my list of predictions for the top six categories:

Best Actress

Nominees:

Keisha Castle-Hughes, *Whale Rider*
Diane Keaton, *Something's Gotta Give*
Samantha Morton, *In America*
Charlize Theron, *Monster*
Naomi Watts, *21 Grams*

I believe that Theron's portrayal of a psychotic serial killer locks up the prize for her. Hollywood has a habit of rewarding their beautiful actresses for going crazy and killing people.

Should Win: Charlize Theron

Will Win: Charlize Theron

Best Actor

Nominees:

Johnny Depp, *Pirates of the Caribbean*
Ben Kingsley, *House of Sand and Fog*
Jude Law, *Cold Mountain*
Bill Murray, *Lost in Translation*
Sean Penn, *Mystic River*

Johnny Depp is a joke nomination, and I do not believe Law will get the nod either. Sean Penn is the most likely candidate for his portrayal of a mobster turned vigilante after his daughter's brutal murder. Bill Murray, however, cannot go unnoticed for his surprise performance in Sofia Coppola's *Lost in Translation*.

Should Win: Bill Murray

Will Win: Sean Penn

Best Supporting Actress

Nominees:

Shohreh Aghdashloo, *House of Sand and Fog*
Patricia Clarkson, *Pieces of April*
Marcia Gay Harden, *Mystic River*
Holly Hunter, *Thirteen*
Renée Zellweger, *Cold Mountain*

Though the constantly pale pouting face and squinty eyes have forever turned me against Renée Zellweger, I was very impressed by her no-nonsense, devoted-to-success performance in *Cold Mountain*.

Should Win: Renée Zellweger

Will Win: Renée Zellweger

Best Supporting Actor

Nominees:

Alec Baldwin, *The Cooler*
Benicio Del Toro, *21 Grams*
Djimon Hounsou, *In America*
Tim Robbins, *Mystic River*
Ken Watanabe, *The Last Samurai*

The Cooler, a relatively unknown independent film about an unlucky guy finding the mythical "Lady Luck," housed a brilliant performance by Alec Baldwin. However, Tim Robbins as a deeply disturbed but seemingly harmless mystery is far more likely to be noticed.

Should Win: Alec Baldwin

Will Win: Tim Robbins



Winner: Theron, for *Monster*



Winner: An Older Murray, *Lost*



Will Win: A Cold Renee



Will Win: Mystic Robbins

Best Director

Nominees:

Fernando Meirelles, *City of God*
Peter Jackson, *Return of the King*
Sofia Coppola, *Lost in Translation*
Peter Weir, *Master and Commander*
Clint Eastwood, *Mystic River*

Though I enjoyed Coppola's brilliant efforts at writing and directing *Lost in Translation*, I believe that Director and Picture will be split, with one going to *Mystic River* and one going to *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*. I believe the culmination of Peter Jackson's seven years of work on the J.R.R. Tolkien trilogy will result in a statuette, though Clint Eastwood's *Mystic River* could easily replace it.

Should Win: Peter Jackson

Will Win: Peter Jackson

Best Picture

Nominees:

Seabiscuit
The Lord of the Rings: Return of the King
Lost in Translation
Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World
Mystic River

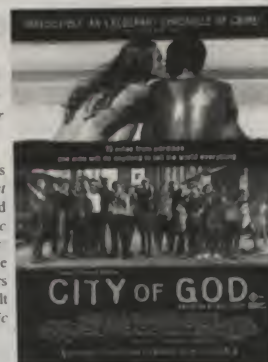
Two of the nominations, *Seabiscuit* and *Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World*, have very little chance at all of winning. I believe that after Peter Jackson receives the award for Direction, *Mystic River* will join the immortal ranks of Best Picture winners.

Should Win: *Mystic River*

Will Win: *Mystic River*

Most Under-nominated: *Cold Mountain*, a much better movie than *Seabiscuit* or *Master and Commander*.

Most Over-nominated: *Master and Commander*: with ten nominations, the second-most of any movie this year, this incredibly dull and shallow movie should not have earned a berth in any category.



Editor's Pick; it won't win



Snowball's chance in Mordor?

What's Cooking: A 2004 Prom Update

This year's prom is coming up in less than two months. Many teen movies idealize the prom, and I was naturally extremely curious to see what would be going down this year. According to Mr. Gaither, William Benson, Taylor Gould, and Mr. Morrison, the prom is on Saturday April 17, and the senior dinner starts at 6:30 pm. The cafeteria will have Mardi Gras like decorations, since that is the theme of the prom this year and will resemble a street in New Orleans in the French Quarter. Following the dinner will be the presentation at 8:00 pm, where all of the seniors will be presented, as well as the four junior class officers. The dance will begin as soon as the presentation is over, around 8:40 p.m., and will feature the "Fantasy Band." This band is a psychedelic cover band which we can thank Taylor for booking. They can play a wide variety of music, but they will play mostly popular music that we can all dance to. If you would like to hear their music before the prom, you can go to www.eastcoastentertainment.com

and search for "Fantasy." Also, this year the prom is going to be held in the Paschall theater instead of the gym as it has been in the past years. Mr. Morrison explained to me that the set will look much better in the theater than in the gym, because of the daunting size of the gym compared to the theater. At the presentation, the students being presented will come out of the four sliding doors at the back of the theater onto the stage, with parents watching from the red folding seats. The band will be situated on a platform across the section where the seniors normally sit for assembly, facing the four sliding doors. The theater will also provide better sound for the band, because it has much better acoustics than the gym and should also be an overall more fun environment and make for better dancing since the stage is more intimate than the gym floor. This year's prom should be a great event; look for more updates on the dance next issue. CHRIS GIOIA, Associate Editor, Entertainment.

bellringer@fc.montgomerybell.com

The Bell Ringer's Valentine's Day Poll: Our Own Finger On The Pulse of the MBA Dating World

by TAYLOR GOULD
and ANDREW PITTMAN
Staff Writers

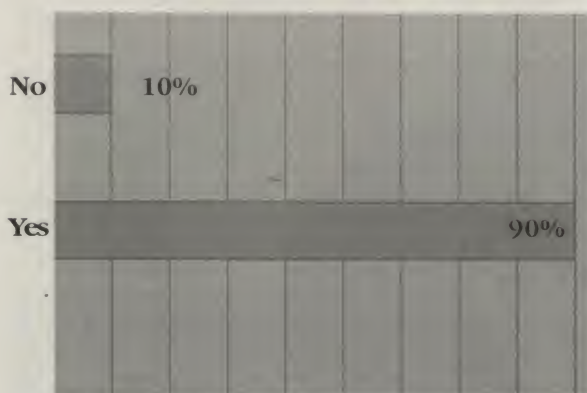
The history of Valentine's Day is ancient and most certainly mysterious. The Catholic Church today recognizes three saints under the name Valentine or Valentinus.

Now that we have that done; let's get to the really cool, fun poll and the multiple-choice questionnaire. Here at the *Bell Ringer*, we love-machines thought that in our Post-Valentine's Day issue, it would be appropriate to recall for our readership the big day, a day which is often feared by high school boys for one important reason: The Valentine's Gift. Valentine's Day seems to be the most feared holiday for men of all ages, because for some reason a guy's Valentine's Gift has never measured up to the girl's. This reason is due to the constant complacency exuded by men over their gifts. If your girlfriend did not like what you bought her, did she say so? Of course not. Let us reverse this trend; if you received a gift which you deemed unworthy of yourself, a poster, a toothbrush, a life-size Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle, etc., let it be known to your significant other; demand that flowers be sent to you in the middle of class. Anyway, we thought maybe we could help our readers avoid embarrassing themselves next year, so we assembled a multiple choice/true-false quiz which approximately 30 people (5% of the school) were asked to answer honestly and completely. Here are the results:

Question: Do You Like Girls?



Question: Do Girls Like You?

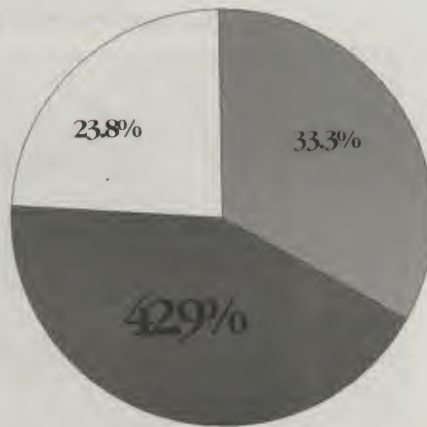


Question: Would You Consider Yourself A "Hot Number"?



THE DATING TECHNIQUE SECTION

If your date drove a Maserati or a Ferrari or a Maybach, would you...



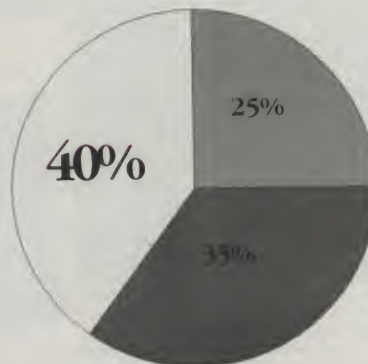
- ☒ take your car on the date anyway?
- ☒ tell her your car broke down and that you'll have to take hers?
- ☐ steal her keys, forget about the date, and go joyriding about in your newfound possession?

You vomit on your date in a nice restaurant. Do you...



- ☒ pretend as if nothing had happened?
- ☒ say, "April fools!"?
- ☐ offer your napkin and then help her home to change?

You're in a club and exit the restroom to find your date being hit on. Do you...



- ☒ admit defeat and run out crying?
- ☒ walk up and ask your date if she is being bothered?
- ☐ grab the nearest heavy object and throw it at him?

QUESTIONS FOR MICHAEL RISEN

Back For More

by ALECMcGUFFEY
Staff Writer

Michael Risen, former debate extraordinaire, returned to MBA this year for the first time since his graduation. A graduate of William and Mary, Mr. Risen is now teaching English for both the junior and high school. How does he keep up the "rigorous" work routine his students have grown to expect, while traveling far and wide nearly every weekend for debate tournaments? *The Bell Ringer* attempts to find out.

How has MBA changed since you went to school here?

The physical plant is the most notable change. I took science classes in the basement of the gym and in the old Carter building. I had two years of history with Mr. Herring on the second story of that fire trap.

You taught at a school prior to MBA. What was that like?

It was a coed K-12 school and was a very different environment. I also primarily taught technical theatre, so my course work was very different. Here, I photocopy handouts and prepare power points. There, I would prepare platforms and other set pieces for construction. I cut a lot of wood. I spent far more time in crawl spaces and hanging of ladders than I do now teaching English.

What was your best experience at MBA? Your worst?

My best experience at MBA was graduation. It felt great to complete such a difficult task as getting through six years of school here. The worst was when Dr. Paschall, the headmaster prior to Mr. Gioia, announced in assembly that he had terminal cancer. It was a tremendously sad and depressing day for all of the students, I think.

If you don't mind me asking, have you ever killed anything? If so what and how?

Lots of trees. Being a debate coach and also a theatre carpenter means that I am a huge consumer of wood-based products. I recycle though—does that make up for it?

Did you ever get demerits when you were here?

I got demerits once for being late to Mr. DeYoung's 1st period Latin class.

Who was your favorite teacher here and what did he or she teach?

I had so many favorite teachers, but I still look back fondly on Mr. Moxley's English II class. It was there that my love of reading and writing really developed.

What was the food like back in the day?

Bad. My seventh grade year we still ate in the basement of Ball. I do remember being able to buy brand name candy and soda, though. What happened to that? (Editor's Note: Good question.)

How long do you spend grading papers and preparing tests each night?

I try to limit how much work I do at home. Maybe two hours on a heavy day. I try to get as much done here as possible. I like to relax at home.

Will you continue teaching for the rest of your life?

Probably. I love being in the classroom and I can't really think of anything else I'd rather do. I can't imagine working in an office, sitting behind a desk.

Have you ever wanted to be in another profession?

I wanted to work as a technical director in the theatre industry, but I decided that was too high stress and the hours are (if you can imagine) worse than school. Too many weekends and late nights. Also, you build a set for a month or so and then you take it apart. At some point, I wanted something more permanent.

What was your favorite subject when you were at MBA?

English, of course. History was in a close second.

Can I have extra credit for doing an "outside writing project"?

Of course. Har har.



After a brief period of absence, Michael Risen returns to MBA as English teacher and Varsity Debate coach.

SPORTS PICTURES

2004 State Dual Wrestling at Clarksville



The women of MBA wrestling with cheerleading coach Hollifield



Chambliss Shillinglaw prepares for action. MBA ultimately placed 4th in the duals.



Joseph Paine points out the sign that says "Editor's Friends' Photos More Likely To Appear In Actual Paper"



Joseph Paine and Mr. Jamie Tillman in a novel alternative to traditional MBA discipline

For more photographs of this tournament and other MBA life events, visit Mr. Tillman's pages at

<http://www.montgomerybell.com/~tillmaj/albums.html>

Grievances Lodged By The Class Of 2004 Regarding The Unfair Restrictions On The Senior Room:

We, the Senior Class of Montgomery Bell Academy, have come to the conclusion that the room recently appointed to us for our educational and recreational use is unfit for the satisfaction of the seniors. Consequently, we would like to lodge the following grievances:

- 1) the prohibition of food and a television
- 2) the constant supervision of teachers during all periods of the day
- 3) the inability to watch a movie/TV during 4th, 5th, and 6th periods.

To these grievances, we would like to propose the following solutions:

- 1) the allowance of food, so long as there is a functional trash can and a senior who will be responsible for cleanup of said food during the day.
- 2) the ability to watch TV, movies, or play video games during 4th, 5th, and 6th periods, as long as the volume is kept at a reasonable level.
- 3) the removal of the "senior room proctors" during various periods of the day, so long as we are still watched by those faculty members who have offices in the vicinity, i.e. Mr. Threalkill, Mrs. Bradshaw, Mr. Jackson, etc.



These Ashen Faces: The Spectre Of Starvation, Boredom, And Depression Must Be Reversed

Protest to the Administration Today!